(b) and (c) Question does not arise

Classification of Minerals

5115 DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have clas sified the mineral/mines into vanous catego nes in the country

(b) if so, the category wise details thereof,

(c) whether a representation to this effect has been received by the Government to include lime and gypsum minerals in 'A' category essential for the cement industry into the open category,

(d) whether the Government propose to include in the schedule 'F of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act 1957, also only those minerals policy thereby separating the remaining minerals,

(e) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) and (b) Minerals have been broadly classified under two categones, minor minerals and those other than minor minerals which are popularly known as major minerals Minor minerals have been defined under section 3 (e) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 (MMRD Act) and have also been so notified in the Official Gazette from time to time Building stones, gravel, ordinary clay, ordinary sand, marble, limestone used in kilns, quartzite, sand stone when used for construction purpose, etc., have been categorised as minor minerals which are generally governed by the Minor Mineral Concession Rules of the respective State Governments

Minerals other than minor minerals are governed by the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 In case of some of these minerals which are specified in the First Schedule of the MMRD Act, prior approval of the Central Government is required before grant or re newal of Prospecting Lincence or Mining lease They are generally known as ' First Schedule Minerals' In all 38 minerals are listed in the First Schedule

(c) No category such as 'A' category or open category' exist under the MMRD Act However, some representations to delete limestone and gypsum form the First Schedule of the MMRD Act have been received

(d) to (f) The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act 1957 does not contain any Schedule 'F

Increase in Prices of Newsprint

5116 SHRI SHANKARRAO KALE Will the Minister of INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) whether the hike in the prices of newsprint has affected the economies of the newspaper industry, and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken to retneve the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCSTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) Yes, sir

(b) Customs duty on the import of stan-